

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SOFIA 01795 251647Z

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 /020 W
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P R 251455Z AUG 75
FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA
TO USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 95

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COMMERCE FOR DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY DOWNEY FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OTRA, ETRD, XH
SUBJECT: VISIT OF COMMERCE DAS DOWNEY

REF: STATE 200242

1. DELIGHTED YOU ARE COMING TO SOFIA AND WILL BE ABLE TO OFFICIATE ON "AMERICA DAY" AT THE PLOVDIV FAIR AT 6:00 P.M. ON SEPTEMBER 5. PRESENCE IN BULGARIA OF RANKING U.S. OFFICIAL CONCERNED WITH EAST-WEST TRADE WILL BE AN EVENT OF CONSIDERABLE SIGNIFICANCE IN OUR COMMERCIAL RELATIONS.

2. ITINERARY SHOULD TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THAT IT CAN TAKE AS LONG AS THREE HOURS BY CAR BETWEEN SOFIA AND PLOVDIV. YOU ARE INVITED TO DRIVE WITH ME TO PLOVDIV ON SEPT 5. HOWEVER, IT WOULD BE EXCEEDINGLY INCONVENIENT AND ALSO HAZARDOUS TO ATTEMPT TO RETURN TO SOFIA THE SAME EVENING. ALSO, IT WOULD BE A GREAT SHAME IF YOUR PRESENCE HERE WERE NOT UTILIZED FOR MEETINGS WITH MINISTER OF COMMERCE NEDEV AND ONE OR TWO OTHER RANKING OFFICIALS WHOM YOU WILL PROBABLY NOT ENCOUNTER IN PLOVDIV.

3. ACCORDINGLY, URGE YOU TO SCHEDULE YOUR DEPARTURE FROM SOFIA FOR SEPT 7 IN LIEU OF SEPT 6. THIS WOULD MAKE FOR A LESS HECTIC SCHEDULE, SAFEGUARD YOUR HEALTH, AND ALLOW FOR HIGHLY DESIRABLE CONSULTATIONS. WE ARE
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PAGE 02 SOFIA 01795 251647Z

HOLDING A SPECIALLY RESERVED HOTEL ROOM FOR YOU (SCARCE

AS HEN'S TEETH) IN PLOVDIV, THEN YOU COULD RIDE BACK
WITH US TO SOFIA SATURDAY MORNING. WOULD ALSO BE
PLEASED TO OFFER YOU GUEST ROOM AT RESIDENCE FOR NIGHT
SEPT 6/7.

4. KNOWING THAT YOU ARE NOT ALWAYS EASILY CONVINCED,
I HAVE ON CONTINGENCY BASIS REQUESTED INTERVIEW FOR YOU
WITH MINISTER OF COMMERCE NEDEV IMMEDIATELY AFTER YOUR
ARRIVAL SEPT 5. SINCE SEPT 6 IS A SATURDAY, AND IN THE
EXPECTATION THAT INTERVIEWS IN SOFIA MAY YET EVENTUATE
LATTER PART SEPT 6 MORNING, YOU MAY ALSO WISH TO CON-
SIDER SOFIA-PARIS FLIGHT THAT AFTERNOON; BUT LEAVING
SATURDAY AT 10 A.M. IS NOT GOOD. LET ME KNOW HOW
FLEXIBLE YOU ARE. REGARDS.
HERZ

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ITINERARY, EAST WEST TRADE, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MartinML
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975SOFIA01795
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750293-0897
From: SOFIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750821/aaaaasah.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 200242
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MartinML
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 MAY 2003 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <24 SEP 2003 by MartinML>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: VISIT OF COMMERCE DAS DOWNEY
TAGS: OTRA, ETRD, XH, (DOWNEY)
To: COM
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006